



USDA – National
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Service, Tennessee
Field Office

Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin



Cooperating with
Tennessee Department
of Agriculture

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Week Ending April 16, 2006

WARM, DRY WEEK PERMITS CORN GROWERS TO GET AHEAD

Tennessee’s corn growers took advantage of sunny and dry conditions last week to plant over 40 percent of the State’s expected corn acreage last week. This outstanding progress has pushed the planting pace ahead of both last year and the five-year average. A few farmers used last week to plant a limited number of acres of early maturing soybean varieties. As of Sunday, virtually all of the State’s winter wheat had been topped dressed with only a few acres left to be completed. The crop was developing on schedule and was rated in mostly good condition. Pasture conditions remained mostly fair-to-good with some reporters citing excellent growth, but others reporting the need for rainfall. Other field activities last week included applying herbicides to corn and fertilizing hay, pastures, and greenhouse tobacco.

There were 6 days considered suitable for fieldwork. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 3 percent very short, 22 percent short, 71 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 3 percent very short, 23 percent short, 71 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus. Temperatures across Tennessee last week averaged about 10 degrees above normal with average highs ranging from the upper 70s to low 80s and average lows generally in the 50s. Rainfall averaged well below normal across the entire State.

CROP PROGRESS: Through April 16, 2006					CONDITION: On April 14, 2006					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2005	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Winter Wheat – Jointed	93	75	81	81	Winter Wheat	1	5	19	57	18
Winter Wheat -- Headed	5	n/a	4	5	Apples	0	10	23	61	6
Winter Wheat – Top Dressed	97	94	94	98	Peaches	4	4	15	57	20
Corn – Planted	57	16	29	44	Pastures	2	10	38	43	7
Apples – Budding or Beyond	94	82	84	87						
Apples – Blooming or Beyond	70	40	54	62						
Peaches – Budding or Beyond	95	94	94	97						
Peaches – Blooming or Beyond	93	80	80	83						

County Agent Comments

“Farmers were able to plant a good bit of their corn last week and are gearing up to start planting other crops as well.”
Jeffery D. Via, Fayette County

“Producers made good progress putting down anhydrous, applying herbicides, and planting corn. Sunshine, warm temperatures, and windy conditions have the ground drying out quickly with some producers reporting very dry planting conditions, while other producers are waiting for the ground to dry enough for field work.”
Jeff Lannom, Weakley County

“A cold snap in the early morning of April 9 damaged fruit crops. Temperatures fell below 30 degrees in some locations.”
Ken Burress, Wayne County

“For the second spring in a row, we are drier than normal. Everything is behind and beginning to hurt.”
Larry Moorehead, Moore County

“Excellent weather this past week allowed farmers to catch up and get ahead. Also, the unusually warm temperatures have sped-up the growth of crops and weeds.”
Jason Evitts, Trousdale County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION										
For week ending: April 16, 2006 (with comparisons)										
LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F Since April 1	
	Week Ending April 16, 2006				Current Week 04/16/06	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal		
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN					Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	87	36	67	7	0	0	17.23	0.43	116	70
Tri-City_RGNL_A	80	32	61	7	0.12	1	10.92	-1.21	43	40
Brownsville_TN	85	39	67	8	0	0	16.24	-0.38	116	96
Chattanooga/Lov	87	39	66	8	0	0	11.85	-6.29	95	72
Clarksville_Sew	90	36	68	12	0	0	13.04	-3.11	98	73
Cookeville	86	30	63	8	0	0	16.13	-1.39	53	53
Covington	84	37	66	8	0	0	15.24	-1.32	99	67
Crossville_AP	83	33	64	10	0	0	16.88	-0.77	58	52
Dayton	86	35	63	5	0	0	12.7	-5.82	55	37
Dickson_AG	87	29	67	10	0	0	14.04	-2.69	89	63
Dover_1W	86	34	65	9	0.02	1	13.87	-2.71	80	64
Dyersburg	86	37	69	9	0	0	14.32	-0.95	126	87
Erwin_1W	84	33	60	9	0	0	10.92	-2.71	39	23
Huntingdon_Wate	88	36	65	8	0	0	13.18	-3.06	89	68
Jackson_Exp_Stn	86	39	68	10	0	0	16.12	0.18	113	83
Kingston_AG	89	33	63	8	0	0	16.24	-2.26	51	44
Knoxville_AP	84	38	65	8	0	0	11.7	-3.66	76	62
Lewisburg	86	30	63	8	0	0	16.1	-0.97	78	62
Lexington_TN	86	36	66	8	0	0	13.93	-1.71	91	91
Linden	86	35	65	8	0	0	16.04	-1.54	82	61
Martin	86	35	66	9	0	0	16.56	0.6	86	63
Mc_Minnville_Tn	85	35	68	10	0	0	14.11	-2.75	95	61
Memphis_AG	86	38	68	6	0	0	16.56	0.13	113	60
Milan	88	32	67	10	0	0	14.34	-1.88	106	83
Murfreesboro_5N	89	34	66	9	0	0	18.56	2.41	84	34
Nashville_Metro	88	37	68	11	0	0	13.95	-0.59	117	91
Newcomb	86	31	61	9	0	0	14.63	-1.62	47	47
Oneida	86	31	62	10	0	0	14.34	-1.91	47	20
Portland_TN	87	37	65	9	0	0	13.72	-1.92	69	57
Pulaski_Water_P	86	32	62	2	0	0	17.09	-0.77	68	35
Savannah_6SW	87	36	67	6	0	0	16.2	-2.14	99	77
Sparta_TN	85	33	65	9	0	0	19.54	2.52	71	60
Springfield	87	33	65	9	0	0	13.29	-1.89	71	57
Springhill	87	34	64	8	0	0	16.91	-0.41	75	59
Union_City	85	34	64	8	0.01	1	15.94	0.19	75	55
Waynesboro_TN	86	33	63	7	0.01	1	18.25	-0.41	64	41

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). GDD = Growing Degree Days.
 Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
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